Bilingualism for Language Teachers and Parents in Japan

by Steve McCarty
Professor, Osaka Jogakuin College & University
JALT Osaka Back to School Mini-Conference
Osaka Gakuin University, 14 April 2013
### Bilingualism as

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>an attitude or stance that more languages are better</td>
<td>a discipline in Applied Linguistics - the study of languages in contact</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(an &quot;-ism&quot;)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a state of being or becoming bilingual to a useful extent</td>
<td>a goal of education, learning, or a child's natural acquisition</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Meanings of the word “Bilingualism”**
Levels of Bilingualism

- **Individual** (Bilingual development)
- **Societal** (Cultures, policies)
- **Family** (Bilingual child-raising)
- **School** (Bilingual Education)
- **Disciplinary** (Academic, professional, related fields)
Bilingualism as a university subject or major

Bilingualism research groups or networks

Translation and Interpretation

Second Language Acquisition Research

Global academic publications on bilingualism

Sociolinguistics / Psycholinguistics / Neurolinguistics

Theories / terminology / definitions

Research methodology / measurement

Sign language, medical and other fields

Bilingualism in Applied Linguistics

Bilingualism at the disciplinary level
## Taxonomy of Bilingualism for Language Teaching in Japan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Individual Level</th>
<th>Societal Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Childhood (simultaneous) bilingual development</td>
<td>Monoculturalism / Biculturalism / Multiculturalism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult (consecutive) bilingual development</td>
<td>Government language policies (stated or inferred)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language maintenance / attrition / loss / pathology</td>
<td>Linguistic Human Rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language processing (code-switching, mixing, etc.)</td>
<td>Profile of each native language group in a society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Degree of ‘Bilinguality’ / cognitive benefits, etc.</td>
<td>Majority &amp; Minority Languages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Degree of ‘Biculturality’ / Cultural Identity issues</td>
<td>Immigrants / Language Minority Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Types of Bilinguals (active or receptive, etc.)</td>
<td>Returnees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Types of Language Acquisition: 1\textsuperscript{st}, 2\textsuperscript{nd}, Bilingual 1\textsuperscript{st}</td>
<td>International / regional / bridge / valued languages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japanese &amp; English / other language combinations</td>
<td>Recognized standard language proficiency tests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trilingual / Multilingual development</td>
<td>Occupations needing certain bilingual skills</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family Level</th>
<th>School Level (Bilingual Education)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bilingual child-raising approaches</td>
<td>Types of Bilingual Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International / intercultural families</td>
<td>Medium of instruction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biliteracy (minority language reading)</td>
<td>Content-Based Language Teaching</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Generational) Language Shift (also at Societal Level)</td>
<td>International / Ethnic / Bilingual Schools</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Types of Language Acquisition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First / native (L1 acquisition)</th>
<th>Second / foreign (L2 / SL / FL learning)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Multilingual (L3, L... learning or acquisition)</td>
<td>2 native languages (Bilingual Acquisition, Lᵃ &amp; Lᵇ, or BFLA)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Bilingual perspective on languages**
Types of Bilingual Education (1 of 2)

- Submersion
- Mainstream FLT
- Transitional

Weak (or Monolingual) Forms of Bilingual Education

- Segregationist
- Separatist
Strong Forms of Bilingual Education

Types of Bilingual Education (2 of 2)

- **Immersion**
- **Maintenance / Heritage Language**
- **Two-way / Dual Language**
- **Mainstream Bilingual**
Example of a Strong Form:
Two-Way Immersion Bilingual Education at Seigakuin Atlanta International School

Classes with students of different native languages

Native Japanese speakers learn English

Students learn from each other

Native English speakers learn Japanese

Japanese and English native speaking teachers

An effective type of bilingual education
For Further Reference

“How Bilingualism informs Language Teaching” JALT 2012, listen to the slidecast:
http://www.slideshare.net/waoe/jalt-2012-bilingualism-4-Lt-1

“Analyzing Types of Bilingual Education in Japan and the World” Osaka BTS 2012:
http://www.slideshare.net/waoe/analyzing-types-of-bilingual-education-12628439

Series on “Understanding Bilingual Education” Tokyo: Child Research Net :
http://www.childresearch.net/papers/language/2012_01.html

「バイリンガル教育とは」シリーズ 東京:チャイルドリサーチネット:
http://www.blog.crn.or.jp/report/02/171.html

Series on “Understanding Bilingualism” Tokyo: Child Research Net :
http://www.childresearch.net/papers/language/2010_02_01.html

「バイリンガリズムを考える」シリーズ 東京:チャイルドリサーチネット:
http://www.blog.crn.or.jp/report/02/129.html

Other publications on bilingualism, Japan, Asia, EFL, and online education:
http://www.waoe.org/steve/epublist.html

「バイリンガリズムと日本学」著作目録とリンク集:
http://www.waoe.org/steve/jpublist.html

Thank you!